

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2437

To provide for grants to State child welfare systems to improve quality standards and outcomes, to increase the match for private agencies receiving training funds under part E of title IV of the Social Security Act, and to authorize the forgiveness of loans made to certain students who become child welfare workers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2003

Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. COOPER, Mr. FROST, Ms. LEE, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. WEXLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for grants to State child welfare systems to improve quality standards and outcomes, to increase the match for private agencies receiving training funds under part E of title IV of the Social Security Act, and to authorize the forgiveness of loans made to certain students who become child welfare workers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Child Protection Serv-
3 ices Workforce Improvement Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. CHILD WELFARE SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**
5 **GRANTS.**

6 Part B of title IV of the Social Security Act (42
7 U.S.C. 620–629i) is amended by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 **“Subpart 3—Supporting Quality Front Line Workers**
10 **“SEC. 440. CHILD WELFARE SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVE-**
11 **MENT GRANTS.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through
13 the Administration of Children and Families, shall make
14 grants to States to improve the quality of child welfare
15 services by increasing the quality and capacity of their
16 child welfare workforce or by increasing the coordination
17 of their child welfare services.

18 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—

19 “(1) CONTENTS.—A State desiring to receive a
20 grant under this section shall submit to the Sec-
21 retary an application that includes the following:

22 “(A) PLAN.—A detailed description of how
23 the State would use the grant, during the 5-
24 year period beginning with the date the grant
25 is received, to improve working conditions of
26 child welfare workers in any agency providing a

1 service under the State plan approved under
2 subpart 1 or 2 of part B or part E in 1 or more
3 ways described in paragraph (2), and an expla-
4 nation of how doing so would help the State
5 achieve the outcomes set forth in the Final List
6 of Child Welfare Outcomes and Measures (64
7 Fed. Reg. 45552–45554).

8 “(B) BASELINE DATA ON STATE-SE-
9 LECTED INDICATORS.—The information de-
10 scribed in those subparagraphs of paragraph
11 (3) which describe the indicators that the State
12 intends to improve on using the grant, with re-
13 spect to all child welfare agencies in the State
14 for the fiscal year preceding the first fiscal year
15 for which the grant is requested.

16 “(C) BUDGET.—A budget showing how the
17 State would expend funds (including any grant
18 funds provided under this section) for child wel-
19 fare services or the improvement of the services.

20 “(2) WAYS TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDI-
21 TIONS.—The ways described in this paragraph to
22 improve working conditions of child welfare workers
23 are the following:

24 “(A) Increase the wages of supervisory and
25 nonsupervisory child welfare workers.

1 “(B) Increase the number of State super-
2 visory and nonsupervisory staff working on
3 strengthening and preserving families and im-
4 proving child well-being, permanency, and safe-
5 ty.

6 “(C) Reduce the turnover rate for super-
7 visory and nonsupervisory child welfare workers
8 in the State, and the number of supervisory and
9 nonsupervisory staff vacancies in child welfare
10 agencies.

11 “(D) Improve the formal education and
12 training of supervisory and nonsupervisory child
13 welfare workers.

14 “(E) Increase the number of supervisory
15 and nonsupervisory child welfare workers who
16 have graduated from an institution of higher
17 education in such fields of study as the Sec-
18 retary determines are related to the delivery of
19 child welfare services.

20 “(F) Coordinate training, recruitment, and
21 retention strategies for child welfare workers.

22 “(G) Provide educational scholarships for
23 fields of study relevant to the purposes of parts
24 B and E in return for substantial service.

1 “(H) Implement strategies to increase the
2 safety of child welfare workers.

3 “(I) Enable the State child welfare agen-
4 cies to coordinate the provision of services with
5 State and local health care agencies, State and
6 local alcohol and drug abuse prevention and
7 treatment agencies, State and local mental
8 health agencies, State and local housing agen-
9 cies, State and local agencies administering the
10 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families pro-
11 gram, and other welfare agencies to promote
12 child safety, permanence, and family stability.

13 “(J) Provide training to improve the abil-
14 ity of child welfare workers to include and in-
15 volve families in planning decisions for children
16 served by State child welfare agencies.

17 “(3) DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE DATA.—The
18 data described in this paragraph are the following:

19 “(A) The average salary of supervisory
20 child welfare workers, and of nonsupervisory
21 child welfare workers.

22 “(B) The average number of children or
23 families, per caseworker—

1 “(i) for caseworkers who provide serv-
2 ices for abused or neglected children and
3 their families;

4 “(ii) for caseworkers who provide
5 services to strengthen and preserve fami-
6 lies with children;

7 “(iii) for caseworkers who provide
8 adoption services; and

9 “(iv) for caseworkers who provide
10 family foster care services.

11 “(C) The total number of vacancies in su-
12 pervisory staff positions and in nonsupervisory
13 staff positions, and each such number expressed
14 as a percentage of each type of staff position.

15 “(D) The average rate at which super-
16 visory child welfare workers left employment,
17 and at which nonsupervisory child welfare work-
18 ers left employment.

19 “(E) The average duration of employment
20 of supervisory child welfare workers and of non-
21 supervisory child welfare workers.

22 “(F) The total number and percentage of
23 supervisory child welfare workers and of non-
24 supervisory child welfare workers who have re-
25 ceived a bachelor’s or more advanced degree

1 from an institution of higher education, in the
2 aggregate, and broken down by field of study.

3 “(G) The average number of staff for
4 whom supervisory child welfare workers are re-
5 sponsible.

6 “(H) The range and scope of pre-service
7 and in-service training opportunities, including
8 numbers and percentage of supervisory child
9 welfare staff and of nonsupervisory child wel-
10 fare staff engaged in training programs.

11 “(I) The number and severity of injuries
12 and threats to child welfare workers, and the
13 strategies used to address the safety of child
14 welfare workers.

15 “(J) Data that indicates whether families
16 and children received support services (such as
17 mental and physical health care, food stamps,
18 affordable housing, and substance abuse pre-
19 vention and treatment) needed to create a sta-
20 ble home environment.

21 “(K) Such other indicators as the Sec-
22 retary may by regulation prescribe.

23 “(4) AMENDMENT OF APPLICATIONS.—A State
24 may at any time submit to the Secretary an amend-
25 ment to the application of the State under this sub-

1 section. On approval of such an amendment, the ap-
2 plication shall be considered to include the amend-
3 ment.

4 “(c) GRANTS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—On certification by the Sec-
6 retary that a State application for a grant under
7 this section meets the requirements of subsection (b)
8 and that implementing the activities described in the
9 application would help the State achieve some of the
10 outcomes set forth in the Final List of Child Welfare
11 Outcomes and Measures (64 Fed. Reg. 45552–
12 45554), and on approval by the Secretary of the ap-
13 plication, the State shall be eligible to receive a
14 grant under this section for each fiscal year for
15 which funds are available for such a grant.

16 “(2) GRANT AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall
17 make a grant to each State that is eligible to receive
18 a grant under this section for a fiscal year, in an
19 amount equal to the lesser of—

20 “(A) the amount finally allotted to or re-
21 served for the State under this subsection for
22 the fiscal year; or

23 “(B) 3 times the amount that the State
24 has committed to spend to carry out the activi-
25 ties described in the approved application.

1 “(3) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—

2 “(A) PUERTO RICO.—The Secretary shall
3 reserve 1.75 percent of the funds appropriated
4 pursuant to subsection (j) for each fiscal year,
5 for a grant to Puerto Rico under this section
6 for the fiscal year. If, for a fiscal year, Puerto
7 Rico does not submit to the Secretary an appli-
8 cation that meets the requirements of sub-
9 section (b), the funds so reserved shall be avail-
10 able for allotment under paragraph (4) of this
11 subsection for the succeeding fiscal year or (if
12 the succeeding fiscal year is fiscal year 2009)
13 remitted to the Treasury of the United States.

14 “(B) OTHER TERRITORIES.—The Sec-
15 retary shall reserve 0.3 percent of the funds ap-
16 propriated pursuant to subsection (j) for each
17 fiscal year, for grants among the United States
18 Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and
19 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
20 lands under this section in such amounts as the
21 Secretary deems appropriate for the fiscal year.
22 If, for a fiscal year, none of such territories
23 submits to the Secretary an application that
24 meets the requirements of subsection (b), the
25 funds so reserved shall be available for allot-

1 ment under paragraph (4) of this subsection for
2 the succeeding fiscal year or (if the succeeding
3 fiscal year is fiscal year 2009) remitted to the
4 Treasury of the United States.

5 “(C) INDIAN TRIBES.—The Secretary shall
6 reserve 2 percent of the funds appropriated
7 pursuant to subsection (j) for each fiscal year,
8 for grants among Indian tribes under this sec-
9 tion in such amounts as the Secretary deems
10 appropriate for the fiscal year. If, for a fiscal
11 year, the Secretary does not receive from any
12 Indian tribe an application that meets the re-
13 quirements of subsection (b), the funds so re-
14 served shall be available for allotment under
15 paragraph (4) of this subsection for the suc-
16 ceeding fiscal year or (if the succeeding fiscal
17 year is fiscal year 2009) remitted to the Treas-
18 ury of the United States.

19 “(D) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVAL-
20 UATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve 0.7 per-
21 cent of the funds appropriated pursuant to sub-
22 section (j) for each fiscal year, to pay the costs
23 of providing technical assistance and conducting
24 evaluations under this section.

25 “(4) ALLOTMENTS.—

1 “(A) INITIAL ALLOTMENT.—From the
2 amount available to carry out this section for a
3 fiscal year that remains after applying para-
4 graph (3) for the fiscal year (including any
5 amount available for allotment under this para-
6 graph for the fiscal year after applying para-
7 graph (3) for the preceding fiscal year), the
8 Secretary shall initially allot to each State not
9 described in paragraph (3) for a fiscal year an
10 amount that bears the same ratio to the re-
11 maining amount as the number of individuals
12 who reside in the State and have not attained
13 18 years of age bears to the total number of
14 such individuals in all States not described in
15 paragraph (3) that are eligible for a grant
16 under this section for such most recent fiscal
17 year.

18 “(B) FINAL ALLOTMENT.—The Secretary
19 shall reduce the amount initially allotted to
20 each State with an initial allotment under sub-
21 paragraph (A) of more than \$300,000, on a pro
22 rata basis, to the extent necessary to ensure
23 that the amount finally allotted to each such
24 State is not less than \$300,000.

25 “(d) USE OF GRANT.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

2 “(A) A State to which a grant is made
3 under this section shall use the grant in accord-
4 ance with the approved application for the
5 grant.

6 “(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a
7 State or Indian tribe to which a grant is made
8 under this section shall provide grant funding
9 to private and public child welfare agencies on
10 a proportionate basis, based on the number of
11 foster children, adopted children, and children
12 in kinship care arrangements that such agen-
13 cies serve in the State or in the service delivery
14 area of the tribe, as the case may be.

15 “(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—A State that
16 receives funds under this section shall remit to the
17 Secretary any of such funds that remain unexpended
18 by the State at the end of the 2-year period that be-
19 gins with the date of the receipt.

20 “(3) NO SUPPLANTATION.—A State to which a
21 grant is made under this section shall use the grant
22 to supplement and not supplant any Federal, State,
23 or local funds used for child welfare services or child
24 welfare training.

1 “(e) MONITORING.—The Secretary shall monitor the
2 activities of grantees under this section to ensure compli-
3 ance with this section and any State plan of the grantee
4 under subpart 1.

5 “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may
6 provide technical assistance to any grantee to assist the
7 grantee in improving the quality of child welfare services,
8 including strategies to recruit, train, and retain high qual-
9 ity staff, and in complying with the provisions of law re-
10 ferred to in subsection (e).

11 “(g) ENFORCEMENT.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines
13 that, during a fiscal year, a grantee under this sec-
14 tion has not complied with a requirement of this
15 Act, the Secretary may—

16 “(A) in the case of the 1st such determina-
17 tion of noncompliance, reduce by not less than
18 5 percent the amount of the grant otherwise
19 payable to the grantee under this section for
20 the fiscal year;

21 “(B) in the case of the 2nd such deter-
22 mination of noncompliance, reduce by not less
23 than 25 percent the amount of the grant other-
24 wise payable to the grantee under this section
25 for the fiscal year; and

1 “(C) in the case of the 3rd or any subse-
2 quent such determination of noncompliance,
3 withhold the payment of a grant to the grantee
4 under this section for any succeeding fiscal
5 year, notwithstanding subsection (c).

6 “(2) RECOVERY.—In the case of a determina-
7 tion under paragraph (1) of grantee noncompliance,
8 to the extent that a penalty cannot be imposed
9 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall require the
10 grantee to remit to the Secretary the amount of the
11 penalty not able to be so imposed.

12 “(h) EVALUATION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September
14 30, 2006, the Secretary shall conduct an interim
15 evaluation to determine whether the grantees under
16 this section have improved the provision of child wel-
17 fare services beyond the level reflected in the base-
18 line data set forth in the applications submitted by
19 the grantees under this section.

20 “(2) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—The eval-
21 uation shall include information on whether there
22 has been a statewide improvement in the status of
23 child permanency, child welfare, and child safety of
24 children in the child welfare system.

1 “(3) METHODS.—In conducting the evaluation
2 of a grantee, the Secretary shall use the same meth-
3 ods that were used in considering the application
4 submitted by the grantee pursuant to this section.

5 “(4) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than Sep-
6 tember 30, 2008, the Secretary shall submit to the
7 Congress a written report that contains the final
8 evaluation of the Secretary.

9 “(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
10 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this
11 section, including regulations, developed in consultation
12 with the States, governing how to obtain the baseline data
13 described in subsection (b)(3).

14 “(j) APPROPRIATION.—Out of any money in the
15 Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated,
16 there are appropriated to the Secretary not more than
17 \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008
18 to carry out this section.

19 “(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 “(1) ALASKA NATIVE ORGANIZATION.—The
21 term ‘Alaska Native Organization’ means any orga-
22 nized group of Alaska Natives eligible to operate a
23 Federal program under the Indian Self-Determina-
24 tion Act (25 U.S.C. 450f et seq.) or the designee of
25 such a group.

1 “(2) CHILD WELFARE AGENCY.—The term
2 ‘child welfare agency’ means the State agency re-
3 sponsible for administering subpart 1, and any pub-
4 lic or private agency under contract with the State
5 agency to provide child welfare services.

6 “(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian tribe’
7 means any Indian tribe, band, Nation or other orga-
8 nized group or community of Indians, including any
9 Alaska Native Organization, that is recognized as el-
10 igible for the special programs and services provided
11 by the United States to Indians because of their sta-
12 tus as Indians.

13 “(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
14 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
15 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
16 Education Act of 1965.

17 “(5) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
18 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,
19 Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, American
20 Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

1 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN PAYMENT RATE FOR STATES FOR EX-**
2 **PENDITURES FOR SHORT TERM TRAINING OF**
3 **STAFF OF CERTAIN CHILD WELFARE AGEN-**
4 **CIES AND COURT PERSONNEL.**

5 Section 474(a)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42
6 U.S.C. 674(a)(3)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

7 “(B) 75 percent of so much of such ex-
8 penditures (including travel and per diem ex-
9 penses) as are for the short-term training of—

10 “(i) current or prospective foster or
11 adoptive parents and the members of the
12 staff of State-licensed or State-approved
13 child care institutions providing care, or of
14 State-licensed or State-approved child wel-
15 fare agencies providing services, to foster
16 and adopted children receiving assistance
17 under this part,

18 “(ii) members of the staff of abuse
19 and neglect courts, agency attorneys, attor-
20 neys representing children, parents, or
21 guardians ad litem, or other court-ap-
22 pointed special advocates representing chil-
23 dren in proceedings of such courts,

24 “(iii) persons employed by State,
25 local, or private nonprofit child-serving
26 agencies that are working with the State

1 or local agency administering the State
 2 plan under this part to keep children safe
 3 and provide permanent families for chil-
 4 dren, and

5 “(iv) persons employed by State, local,
 6 or private nonprofit child-serving agencies,
 7 in the provision of mental health services
 8 (including an overview of communication
 9 skills, of signs of normal and pathological
 10 development of children, of normal and
 11 pathological family interaction, of coun-
 12 seling strategies and interventions, and of
 13 community mental health resources includ-
 14 ing how and when to use such resources),
 15 in ways that increase the ability of such current
 16 or prospective parents, guardians, staff mem-
 17 bers, institutions, attorneys, advocates, and per-
 18 sons to provide support and assistance to foster
 19 and adopted children, whether incurred directly
 20 by the State or by contract,”.

21 **SEC. 4. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR CHILD WELFARE WORK-**
 22 **ERS.**

23 Part B of title IV of the Higher Education Act of
 24 1965 is amended by inserting after section 428K (20
 25 U.S.C. 1078–11) the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 428L. LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR CHILD WELFARE**
2 **WORKERS.**

3 “(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section—

4 “(1) to bring more highly trained individuals
5 into the child welfare profession; and

6 “(2) to keep more highly trained child welfare
7 workers in the child welfare field for longer periods
8 of time.

9 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 “(1) CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.—The term
11 ‘child welfare services’ has the meaning given the
12 term in section 425 of the Social Security Act.

13 “(2) DEGREE.—The term ‘degree’ means a
14 bachelor’s or graduate degree awarded by an institu-
15 tion of higher education.

16 “(c) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry
18 out a demonstration program of assuming the obli-
19 gation to repay, pursuant to subsection (d), a loan
20 made, insured, or guaranteed under this part or part
21 D (excluding loans made under sections 428B and
22 428C or comparable loans made under part D) for
23 any new borrower after the date of enactment of this
24 section, who—

25 “(A) completes a degree in social work or
26 related field with a focus on serving children

1 and families (as determined in accordance with
2 regulations prescribed by the Secretary);

3 “(B) obtains employment in public or pri-
4 vate child welfare services; and

5 “(C) has worked full time for the 2 con-
6 secutive years preceding the year for which the
7 determination is made as a child welfare work-
8 er.

9 “(2) AWARD BASIS; PRIORITY.—

10 “(A) AWARD BASIS.—Subject to subpara-
11 graph (B), loan repayment under this section
12 shall be on a first-come, first-served basis and
13 subject to the availability of appropriations.

14 “(B) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give
15 priority in providing loan repayment under this
16 section for a fiscal year to student borrowers
17 who received loan repayment under this section
18 for the preceding fiscal year.

19 “(3) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary is author-
20 ized to prescribe such regulations as may be nec-
21 essary to carry out the provisions of this section.

22 “(d) LOAN REPAYMENT.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall assume
24 the obligation to repay—

1 “(A) after the second consecutive year of
2 employment described in subparagraphs (B)
3 and (C) of subsection (c)(1), 20 percent of the
4 total amount of all loans made after date of en-
5 actment of the Higher Education Amendments
6 of 1998, to a student under this part or part
7 D;

8 “(B) after the third consecutive year of
9 such employment, 20 percent of the total
10 amount of all such loans; and

11 “(C) after each of the fourth and fifth con-
12 secutive years of such employment, 30 percent
13 of the total amount of all such loans.

14 “(2) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section
15 shall be construed to authorize the refunding of any
16 repayment of a loan made under this part or part
17 D.

18 “(3) INTEREST.—If a portion of a loan is re-
19 paid by the Secretary under this section for any
20 year, the proportionate amount of interest on such
21 loan which accrues for such year shall be repaid by
22 the Secretary.

23 “(4) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case where a stu-
24 dent borrower who is not participating in loan repay-
25 ment pursuant to this section returns to an institu-

1 tion of higher education after graduation from an in-
2 stitution of higher education for the purpose of ob-
3 taining a degree described in subsection (c)(1)(A),
4 the Secretary is authorized to assume the obligation
5 to repay the total amount of loans made under this
6 part or part D incurred for a maximum of two aca-
7 demic years in returning to an institution of higher
8 education for the purpose of obtaining such a de-
9 gree. Such loans shall only be repaid for borrowers
10 who qualify for loan repayment pursuant to the pro-
11 visions of this section, and shall be repaid in accord-
12 ance with the provisions of paragraph (1).

13 “(5) INELIGIBILITY OF NATIONAL SERVICE
14 AWARD RECIPIENTS.—No student borrower may, for
15 the same service, receive a benefit under both this
16 section and subtitle D of title I of the National and
17 Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12601
18 et seq.).

19 “(e) REPAYMENT TO ELIGIBLE LENDERS.—The Sec-
20 retary shall pay to each eligible lender or holder for each
21 fiscal year an amount equal to the aggregate amount of
22 loans which are subject to repayment pursuant to this sec-
23 tion for such year.

24 “(f) APPLICATION FOR REPAYMENT.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible individual de-
2 siring loan repayment under this section shall sub-
3 mit a complete and accurate application to the Sec-
4 retary at such time, in such manner, and containing
5 such information as the Secretary may require.

6 “(2) CONDITIONS.—An eligible individual may
7 apply for loan repayment under this section after
8 completing each year of qualifying employment. The
9 borrower shall receive forbearance while engaged in
10 qualifying employment unless the borrower is in
11 deferment while so engaged.

12 “(g) EVALUATION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
14 duct, by grant or contract, an independent national
15 evaluation of the impact of the demonstration pro-
16 gram assisted under this section on the field of child
17 welfare services.

18 “(2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—The grant or con-
19 tract described in subsection (b) shall be awarded on
20 a competitive basis.

21 “(3) CONTENTS.—The evaluation described in
22 this subsection shall determine—

23 “(A) whether the program has increased
24 child welfare workers’ education in the areas
25 covered by loan forgiveness;

1 “(B) whether the loan forgiveness program
2 has contributed to increased time on the job for
3 child welfare workers as measured by (i) the
4 length of time child welfare workers receiving
5 loan forgiveness have worked in the child wel-
6 fare field; and (ii) the length of time such work-
7 ers are continuing to work in such field after
8 they have met the requirements of the loan for-
9 giveness programs;

10 “(C) whether the program has increased
11 the experience and the quality of child welfare
12 workers and has contributed to increased per-
13 formance in the outcomes of child welfare serv-
14 ices in terms of child well-being, permanency,
15 and safety, as determined after consultation
16 with the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
17 ices.

18 “(4) INTERIM AND FINAL EVALUATION RE-
19 PORTS.—The Secretary shall prepare and submit to
20 the President and the Congress such interim reports
21 regarding the evaluation described in this subsection
22 as the Secretary deems appropriate, and shall pre-
23 pare and so submit a final report regarding the eval-
24 uation by September 30, 2008.

1 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, and such sums as may
4 be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.

○